

**NRO&USAF Declassification/Release Instructions on File**

**17 November 1964**

**MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence**  
**SUBJECT: IR Camera**

**Attached is the chronology of events for the IR camera which you requested.**

*151*  
*for* **ALBERT D. WHEELON**  
**Deputy Director**  
**for**  
**Science and Technology**

**Attachment**  
**As stated**

**cc: DDCI**

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17 November 1964

IR CAMERA - CHRONOLOGY

16 October 1962

- Memo from AAD/R (Col. Giller) to AC/TSD/R&D requesting summary of available IR systems.

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October 1962-February 1963-

- Additional investigation by [REDACTED] (ORD). Conferences with AF - Col. Ryan, Col. Martin, Lt. Col. Anderson, Lt. Col. James.

1 April 1963

- Report from AF to CIA (at latter's request) on current status of IR Reconnaissance, predicting "advance-ment at a slow rate" in resolution performance, which was then about [REDACTED] Same opinion apparently held by contractors, actually stated as: [REDACTED] do not currently foresee any potential breakthrough in IR development in the near future".

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February 1963-March 1963

- There was considerable discussion at COMOR of IR, R&D and its possible application to [REDACTED] during this period with COMOR finally concluding on 14 March 1963 (COMOR-M-151) that: "COMOR was not prepared at this time to forward an informa-tional memo on the subject to USIB because of the aspects and develop-ments noted above nor was it prepared to define an R&D requirement for consideration of the USIB".

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March-April 1963

- Preliminary go ahead from Col. Giller to [REDACTED] to proceed with [REDACTED] development, based on fact that no DOD development in existence or contemplated would meet specific Agency needs [REDACTED]

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22 May 1963

- Letter from AFRSTB to AFSC stated a request was sent from Dr. McMillan to Mr. H. Davis, requesting report on various aspects of IR thermal Imaging Capabilities for his review.

7 June 1963

- Approval (Mr. Kirkpatrick) to proceed, [redacted] of FY 63 and 64 CIA funds authorized. The Agency bought into the Army effort, underway at that time, with a view toward reducing number of sensors resulting in achieving [redacted] Did not seek NRO concurrence.

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2 August 1963

- Interim report to AFRSTB from AFSC (Wright-Patterson) stating that higher resolution is required and listing military efforts to date.

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On or About 9 August 1963

- Col. Ledford and Col. Giller met with Dr. McMillan to discuss an IR camera program. [redacted]

[redacted] Dr. McMillan said he would consider the question. Neither Col. Giller nor Col. Ledford recall whether the Agency's participation in development of an IR camera was discussed with Dr. McMillan at this time. However, Col. Giller recalls that there was considerable discussion with Air Force personnel at the Pentagon and Wright Patterson AFB prior to and after this date. (No attempt to hide effort.)

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16 August 1963 (Memo for the Record, by D/NRO - Subject: High Altitude IR Capability) - Dr. McMillan stated Air Force would run IR camera tests [redacted]

Dr. McMillan also said [redacted] infrared sensors were being made available for this program indicating this was the camera selected by the NRO

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